

AGNEW RESIGNS, ADMITS TAX EVASION

Prosecutors Disclose Their Case Against Vice President

Russ Start Airlift of War Materiel to Egypt, Syria

Up to 30 Planes Reported Involved in First Wave; U.S. Cautions Moscow

BY RICHARD RESTON
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Soviet Union has begun a major airlift of critical military supplies to Egypt and Syria, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

It was understood that as many as 30 Soviet transport planes were involved in the first wave of the airlift. Some Soviet shipments are arriving aboard huge AN-22 transport aircraft, each capable of carrying more than 50 tons of military supplies.

U.S. intelligence reports detected the first movement of Russian aircraft from the Soviet Union to

Israeli tanks poised in Sinai; other news and pictures on Mideast war. Part 1, Pages 3, 4 and 5.

Egypt and Syria within the last 24 hours, according to informed sources.

The reports of an extraordinary Soviet airlift to the Arab side came at a time when the Nixon Administration is appealing for restraint on all sides of the Middle East war.

The State Department, meanwhile, cautioned Moscow on its decision to resupply Egypt and Syria. "If this turns out to be a massive airlift, it would tend to put a new face on the situation," department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said. U.S. military supplies to Israel are said to be "minimal" at this point.

McCloskey said he was unable to comment on the scope of the Soviet airlift, but he affirmed Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's Monday night statement that "detente (between the United States and the Soviet Union) cannot survive irresponsibility in any area, including the Middle East."

Other U.S. officials indicated that the new Soviet airlift goes beyond normal supply operations. "This does not look to us like a continuation of normal supply efforts," one said.

The officials said the Soviet flight movements to Egypt and Syria indicate a "special" operation involving "large tonnages" of military equipment.

Administration officials refused to specify the types of Soviet equipment being supplied to the two Arab countries. But military analysts believed the Russian shipments in-

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HEARING OVER—Spiro T. Agnew leaves the U.S. District Court in Baltimore and heads for a

waiting limousine through crowd of newsmen after pleading to tax charge and resigning from office.
(A Wirephoto)

Israelis Claim Golan Heights Recapture, Gains Along Suez

Mrs. Meir Hints Forces May Not Stop at Former Lines; Jerusalem Says Commandos Staged Raid Across Canal

From Associated Press

Prime Minister Golda Meir said Wednesday that Israeli forces recaptured the Golan Heights and were pushing the Egyptian army back along the Suez Canal.

She said the Soviet Union was pouring in arms to help the Arabs.

Early today, the Israeli command said Israeli commandos had crossed the Suez Canal during the night and made a hit-and-run attack on Egyptian convoys.

The Israelis said the commandos returned safely across the 200-foot-wide canal after attacking "convoys and rear echelons of the enemy" in the canal's southern sector.

(One Israeli armored column Wednesday advanced to the edge of the canal and joined up with an Israeli army unit that had been cut off there since the beginning of the new war, Israeli radio reported Wednesday night.)

(An Israeli radio correspondent

said the linkup took place in the salt marshes north of Kantara, an Israeli stronghold on the fortified Bar-Lev line, which Israel lost to Egypt in the opening stages of the war, Reuters reported.)

Egypt and Syria had no immediate response to Mrs. Meir's claims, and accounts from newsmen taken to the Suez front with Egyptian forces said the Egyptians were continuing to move across the canal.

"Today I can say the heights are in our hands . . ." Mrs. Meir said. "The settlers, driven away by earlier bombardments, are returning to their settlements . . . Our forces are standing very close to the canal and here, too, we are pushing back the enemy."

In other developments: —Bagdad radio confirmed that Iraq had thrown its troops and air force, which includes long-range

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Impact of Events, Swift Action Stun Court Observers

BY RICHARD T. COOPER
Times Staff Writer

BALTIMORE—The court hearing in which Vice President Agnew resigned, pleaded no contest and was sentenced for tax evasion Wednesday moved with the deliberate speed of an avalanche, taking a scant 35 minutes to write an unprecedented chapter in U.S. history.

The hearing, announced on short notice Wednesday morning by U.S. Dist. Judge Walter E. Hoffman, was preceded by such a cloud of secrecy that many of the lawyers and others who assembled had no inkling of what was to come.

And the speed with which Judge Hoffman orchestrated the complex scenario muffled the impact of the events when they began to unfold.

It was only after the proceedings had ended and the former Vice President was leaving Baltimore's decaying old federal building that the momentous events found voice.

Word raced ahead, and as Agnew emerged onto the street, passersby cried out, "He's resigned. He's resigned," and tried unsuccessfully to surge around him.

Notice of the hearing, posted late Wednesday morning on a bulletin board outside the rooms in which a federal grand jury had been considering evidence against Agnew, did not specify what would take place.

It was widely assumed that Judge Hoffman would deal with some aspect of the attempt by Agnew's lawyers to compel newsmen to reveal the sources of stories on the grand jury investigation.

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Given 3-Year Probation; Nixon to Nominate Successor Swiftly

BY ROBERT SHOGAN
Times Political Writer

WASHINGTON—Vice President Agnew resigned his office Wednesday and pleaded no contest to tax evasion charges, abruptly ending a political and legal controversy that had rocked an Administration already shaken by the Watergate scandal.

GOVERNMENT CASE

Engineer Recalls Payoff in Office of Vice President

BY RONALD J. OSTROW
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Allen Green, president of a Maryland engineering concern, told federal prosecutors he recalls vividly the first time he turned over \$2,000 in a plain envelope to Spiro T. Agnew in the Vice President's spacious office.

The money was only one of a series of quarterly payments Green made to Agnew to remain eligible for state engineering contracts and later in hopes of landing federal work, he said.

Fearing their conversation in Agnew's office—adjacent to the White House — would be overheard or taped, Green said he referred to the payment as a political contribution. He said he raised his eyes to the high ceiling in the room so that Agnew would understand the reference.

Green's recollection is one of the items of "facts and evidence" against Agnew developed by the federal investigation that was placed in the court record Wednesday at government insistence.

In the 40-page outline of evidence, the prosecutors said there was no question that Agnew and the contractors knew the payoffs were made in exchange for lucrative state of Maryland business.

While denying all allegations of illegal acts, except tax evasion, Agnew went along with the submission of the incriminating government material as part of the agreement under which he was fined \$10,000 and placed on three years' probation.

The government evidence alleged that Agnew:

—Received at least \$88,750 from 1967 to 1972 from engineering firms seeking Maryland business and probably many times that amount under another kickback arrangement that gave him 50% and two associates 25% each.

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Speculation Rife on Successor; Struggle in Congress Possible

BY RUDY ABRAMSON
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Vice President Agnew's resignation Wednesday came like a thunderbolt, threatening Republican political unity and setting the spark for yet another struggle between President Nixon and the Democratic-controlled Congress.

Speculation on a successor—who will be nominated by the President and must be approved by both houses of Congress—was instantaneous.

The President set about his task immediately. He talked to Republican congressional leaders at a late-afternoon meeting and House Speaker Carl Albert (D-Okla.) and Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) in early evening.

GO Chairman George Bush wired all members of the Republican National Committee for their recommendations while White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig Jr. sent telegrams to the 19 Republican governors for theirs.

Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) told Republican senators to submit up to three names in

Immediately after submitting his resignation, the second by a Vice President in U.S. history, Agnew appeared in a packed federal courtroom in Baltimore where he was given three years' probation and fined \$10,000.

In a letter of explanation to President Nixon, Agnew, who had vigorously proclaimed his innocence, said that the charges against him could not be resolved "without a long, divisive and debilitating struggle . . ."

"I have concluded that, painful as it is to me and to my family, it is in the best interests of the nation that I relinquish the office of the Vice Presidency."

His resignation creates the possibility of another controversy, be-

Other news of Agnew in Part 1, Pages B, 2 and 18 through 30; Part 3, Page 16, and commentary by Robert J. Donovan in Part 2, Page 7.

tween and among Democrats and Republicans, over his successor. President Nixon is empowered by the 25th Amendment to the Constitution to select a new Vice President with the approval of both houses of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

Mr. Nixon promptly consulted with congressional leaders of both parties and called for a canvass of the Republican National Committee on its preference.

White House Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler promised the President would move "expeditiously"—which he defined as a matter of days, rather than weeks — in submitting a nominee to Congress.

Until Agnew's vacancy is filled, 65-year-old Carl Albert (D-Okla.), Speaker of the House of Representatives, is next in line for the Presidency.

The arrangement under which Agnew pleaded no contest to one charge of tax evasion in return for a Department of Justice recommendation that he be spared imprisonment was reached in plea-bargaining Monday and Tuesday between his attorneys and Department of Justice lawyers.

Agnew's plea, technically described as nolo contendere, has the same legal effect as a guilty plea so far as the criminal charges are concerned. The practical difference is that the no-contest plea protects the defendant against the loss of such civil rights as voting and holding office.

In reading a brief prepared statement in open court, Agnew said that

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ISRAELI PRISONERS—Cairo newspapers ran this photo of what were said to be Israeli soldiers

being guarded by an Egyptian trooper in a camp near Cairo after their capture in the Sinai.
(A Wirephoto)

THE WEATHER

National Weather Service forecast: Fair today and Friday. High both days in upper 70s. High Wednesday, 78; low, 54.

Complete weather information and snag report in Part 3, Page 15.

CASE ON AGNEW

Continued from First Page

Instructed an aide to solicit from an unnamed financial institution a substantial cash payment in return for awarding that institution a major role in financing a large issue of Maryland bonds.

Complained to an engineering firm principal first about the financial burdens imposed on him as governor and, later, those associated with being Vice President, and then told the individual he hoped to help in awarding federal engineering contracts to his company.

Received "corrupt" payments through December, 1972—payments that stopped only after the U.S. attorney in Maryland launched an investigation into Baltimore county corruption.

Drew a \$2,500 payment in return for the awarding by the General Services Administration, the federal government's housekeeping arm, of a contract to a small engineering firm.

Used such code words as "paper" and "information" to describe illicit payments.

The evidence about Agnew collected by the Department of Justice was communicated to President Nixon by Atty. Gen. Elliot L. Richardson and Asst. Atty. Gen. Henry E. Petersen. That raises the question of why Mr. Nixon repeatedly contended that the charges against Agnew "do not relate in any way to his activities as Vice President."

The government's information alleged that Agnew received payments in his Vice President's office through last December from at least two individuals, both of whom were seeking federal contracts.

Agnew's role in the kickback scheme represented, at least in the eyes of one participant, the continuation of a "system" for awarding public contracts in states such as Maryland where the awards are not made on the basis of public bids.

Under this system, which each state administration perpetuated, the connection between payments and contracts rested on a largely tacit understanding under which engineers knew that if they did not pay, they would not receive very many contracts and that if they did pay, they would receive favored treatment," the government's submission said.

While tracing the alleged kickback arrangements back to the early 1960s when Agnew served as Baltimore County executive, the government's submission concentrated on the period from 1967 to 1969, when he was governor, and from 1969 until the present.

The evidence found that in the spring of 1967, the then new governor advised I. H. Hammerman II, a successful real estate developer and mortgage banker, that it was customary for engineers to make sizable cash payments in return for state engineering contracts.

He asked Hammerman to arrange for Jerome B. Wolff, chairman-director of the Maryland State Roads Commission, to notify Hammerman of the engineering firms in line for state contracts so Hammerman could obtain cash payments from their firms.

Wolff agreed to take part in the scheme, suggesting that the payments be divided equally among Agnew, Hammerman and himself.

"Gov. Agnew at first replied that he did not see why Wolff should receive any share of the money," the government found, "but he agreed to a division as long as he received 50% of the total payments." Wolff agreed, and he and Hammerman each drew 25%.

The scheme was fully implemented during the year-and-a-half Agnew served as governor, and Hammerman contacted about eight engineering firms. Seven of the companies made "substantial cash payments," while the

eight refused and complained, first to an attorney and later to Agnew himself, about the solicitation.

"Wolff, informed of the

complaint, reduced the share of work being awarded to the complaining engineer, but decided not to cut that engineering firm off completely from state work for fear of further exacerbating the situation," the government said.

The attorney to whom the complaining engineer turned was a close personal friend of Agnew. He went to the governor and described in detail Hammerman's solicitation and his client's outrage.

"Although he indicated that he would look into

the matter, Mr. Agnew never reported back to the attorney," the government submission said. "He did several months later meet personally with the engineer, at the attorney's insistence, but the investigation has established that Mr. Agnew did nothing

whatever to stop Mr. Hammerman's continuing solicitations of cash payments from engineers in return for state work and that Mr. Agnew continued for several years thereafter to accept his 50% share of those cash payments." Please Turn to Pg. 16, Col. 1

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EVIDENCE

Continued from 13th Page

Describing a separate arrangement, the government said that shortly after Agnew was elected governor in 1966 he complained to Allen Green, the engineering firm principal, about the financial burdens associated with his new job.

Soon Green delivered to Agnew six to nine times a year an envelope containing between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in cash, according to the government document.

"Green's purpose was to elicit from the Agnew administration as much state work for his engineering firm as possible," the government said. "That purpose was clearly understood by Gov. Agnew both because Green occasionally expressed his appreciation to the governor for state work being received by his company and because Green frequently asked for and often received from the governor assurances that his company would get further state work, including specific jobs."

The government said that after Agnew's election as Vice President, but before his inauguration Wolff, following Agnew's instructions, contacted Green to prepare a detailed description of work and fees awarded Green's company by Agnew's administration.

Agnew later met with Green and told the engineer he was glad his firm had received a lot of work during his administration. Agnew then complained about the financial burden of becoming Vice President and expressed "the hope that Green would not stop his finan-

cial assistance," the government said.

"To Green's surprise, Mr. Agnew went on to state expressly that he hoped to be able to be helpful to Green with respect to the awarding of federal engineering contracts to Green's company," the document said.

As a result of that conversation, the government said, Green made cash payments, usually about \$2,000 each, to Agnew three or four times a year—sometimes at the Vice President's office and other times at his residence, then in Washington's Sheraton Park hotel.

Describing yet another kickback relationship, the government said that Lester Matz, a principal in another engineering firm, began making "corrupt payments" while Agnew was county executive.

"In those days, Matz paid 5% of his fees from Baltimore County contracts in cash to Mr. Agnew through one of Mr. Agnew's close associates," the government said.

After Agnew became governor, Matz decided to make his payments directly and delivered \$20,000 in cash in a manila envelope to Agnew in mid-July, 1968. The \$20,000 was "generated in an illegal manner" by Matz, the government said without elaboration.

Matz' next corrupt payment was made shortly after Agnew became Vice

President, according to the government's submission. After raising \$10,000 "in an illegal manner," Matz met with Agnew in the Vice President's office and turned the cash over to him in an envelope, the government said.

"Matz informed the Vice President at that meeting that the envelope contained money still owed to Mr. Agnew in connection with work awarded to Matz's firm by Gov. Agnew's administration and that more such monies would be owed and paid in the future," the government said. "Matz did make several subsequent payments to the Vice President. He believes that he paid an additional \$5,000 to Mr. Agnew in cash."

Around April, 1971, Matz paid Agnew \$2,500 in re-

turn for the awarding of a GSA contract to a small engineering firm in which Matz had a financial interest. "An intermediary was instrumental in the arrangement for that particular corrupt payment," the government said.

Not all of the attempts to solicit funds succeeded, the government found.

In the spring of 1972, an intermediary between Agnew and those from whom the Vice President was seeking funds called Matz and asked for \$10,000 for the 1972 Nixon-Agnew campaign, Matz declined.

"When the close associate continued to press him, Matz complained about these solicitations to Mr. Agnew who told Matz to say that he gave at the office," the government document said.

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13 Unions Sign Pact With Builders Group

MIAMI BEACH (AP)—Representatives of 13 AFL-CIO unions and the National Constructors Assn. signed an agreement aimed at reducing strikes and increasing production in the troubled construction industry.

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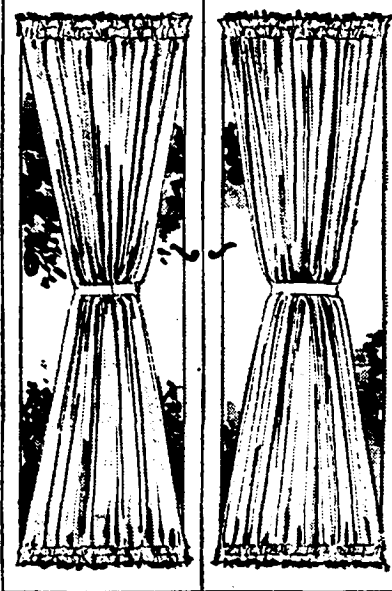
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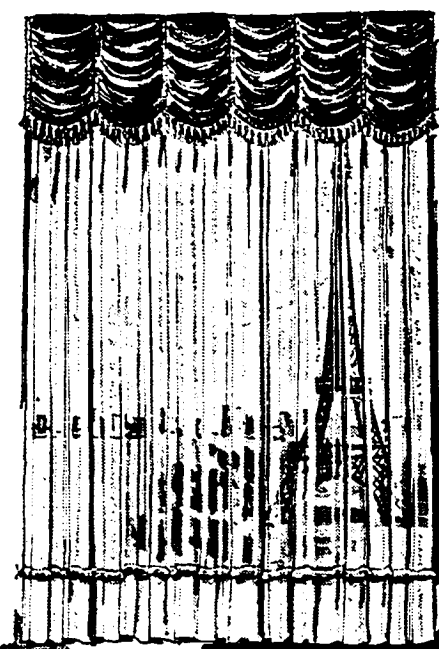
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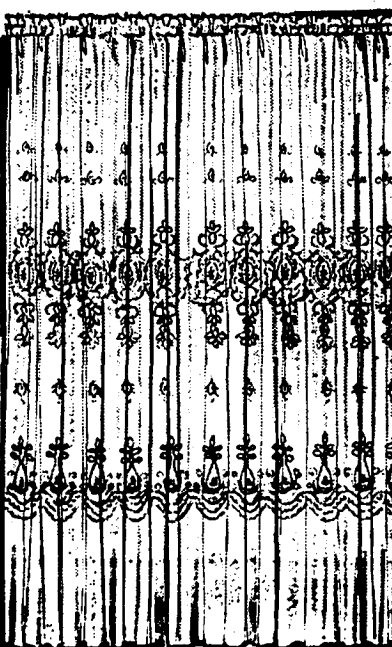
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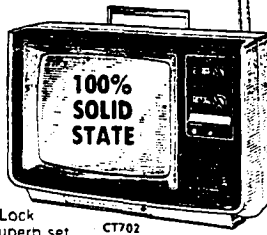


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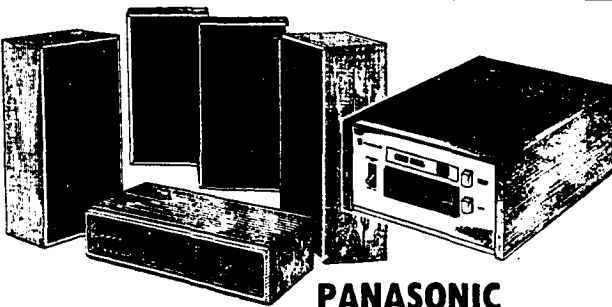
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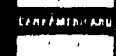
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THUMBNAIL SKETCHES OF PROSPECTS

17 Possible Agnew Successors Discussed

From a Times Staff Writer
WASHINGTON — Thumbnail sketches of possible successors to Spiro T. Agnew as Vice President:

John Bowden Connally Jr., 56... lifelong Democrat who converted to Republican Party on May 2... Texas-born and educated lawyer... millionaire... joined Nixon Administration in 1971 as secretary of the Treasury... was touted as possible replacement for Agnew on President Nixon's 1972 ticket... tall, silver-haired, quickwitted... warmly praised by Mr. Nixon earlier this year as presidential timber... got his start in politics in 1949 as Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson's administrative aide... returned to Texas, became lawyer for Ft. Worth oil, broadcasting and ranching entrepreneurs...

Named secretary of Navy by President John F. Kennedy in 1961... resigned to run successfully for Texas governorship, twice reelected... wounded during assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963... as Treasury secretary helped persuade Mr. Nixon to impose wage-price controls and devalue the dollar in 1971... resigned Treasury post in May, 1972, amid rumors he was headed for Vice Presidency... when that did not occur, returned to Houston law firm... brought in as temporary, unpaid White House adviser during economic and political crises of 1973... last month began nationwide speaking tour wooing Republican rank and file... married, three children.

Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.), 47... vice chairman of the Senate Watergate committee... television coverage brought him notoriety as a possible 1976 presidential contender... some colleagues in the legal profession claimed he failed to put hard questions to Nixon Administration figures... although regarded as a Senate moderate, he was a Hawk on Vietnam and now spearheads drive for a school prayer constitutional amendment.

His ties to President Nixon go back to 1966, when Mr. Nixon campaigned for him in Tennessee... Baker later reciprocated, giving one of the 1968 convention seconding speeches for Mr. Nixon and standing behind him during Senate fights over ill-fated Supreme Court nominees Clement Haynsworth and G. Harrold Carswell... his Senate successes have made people forget that when he was elected he was known primarily as the late Sen. Everett Dirksen's son-in-law... once a successful corporate lawyer, Baker is "comfortably fixed" financially, his office says.

Atty. Gen. Elliot L. Richardson, 53... the Nixon Administration's jack-of-all-trades, he is now filling his third Cabinet post... previously served as secretary of defense and secretary of health, education and welfare... once dubbed a "super-bureaucrat" because of his organizational talents, he also has considerable experience in elective politics... in heavily Democratic Massachusetts, Republican Richardson was elected to office... political and legal talent...

known President Nixon since the Dwight D. Eisenhower administration when Richardson sometimes sat in at Cabinet meetings as assistant secretary of HEW.

Although Richardson's department is responsible for many of the President's headaches—particularly the Agnew investigation and resignation—Richardson has struggled to remain impartial, going so far as to question special prosecutor Archibald Cox's right to the Watergate tapes... born to a Boston Brahmin family and educated at Harvard.

Dep. Atty. Gen. William D. Ruckelshaus, 41... Mr. Nixon called on him once before in time of trouble, to take over as acting director of FBI... never particularly close to the White House, he sometimes got into scrapes with the President's inner circle during his three-year tenure as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency...

Although scion of a family active for three generations in Indiana GOP politics, he has won only one election in his life—a 1966 race for the Indiana House of Representatives... in 1968, lost by 62,000 votes to incumbent Democratic Sen. Birch Bayh... has told friends he may challenge Bayh again in 1974... quick-witted and self-deprecating, he has charmed even his sharpest critics... a Harvard law school graduate... his wife, Jill, is a White House consultant on women's rights.

Richard Green Lugar, 41... as mayor of Indianapolis since 1968, one of the few Republican mayors of a major city... it's said he is President Nixon's favorite mayor... best known for implementation of "unigov" reorganization merging Indianapolis and surrounding county into a 388-square-mile city in 1970... vice chairman of Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations since 1970... bachelors' degrees from Denison University and England's Oxford University, where he went as a Rhodes scholar... Methodist... Rotarian... married, four sons.

Caspar Willard Weinberger, 56, secretary of health, education and welfare... has held four major jobs in Nixon Administration, starting with chairman of the Federal Trade Commission in 1970... known as "Cap the Knife" for his efforts to slash federal spending as deputy director and then director of the Office of Management and Budget... San Franciscan, Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Harvard and Harvard law school... served six years in California State Assembly until 1958... practiced law in San Francisco in 1960s, while also serving as chairman and vice chairman of California Republican Central Committee... returned to government as California Gov. Reagan's finance director in 1968, where he served until Mr. Nixon brought him to Washington... believed eyeing

1974 Republican gubernatorial race in California... married, two children.

John Sherman Cooper, 72, a somewhat shy, courtly man who was one of the most respected members of Congress during 20 years in the Senate because of his reputation for honesty and thoughtful, unflamboyant manner... retired voluntarily as senator from Kentucky in 1973, saying a younger man could do the job better...

... identified with liberal wing of GOP... early critic of Vietnam war and leader of efforts to limit U.S. military involvement in Southeast Asia... sponsor of 1964 Civil Rights Act... appointed by Eisenhower as ambassador to India where he served two years... graduate of Yale College, Harvard law school.

Ronald Reagan, 62, Republican governor of California for nearly seven

years... a leading conservative in the party... strong contender for the GOP presidential nomination in 1968... apparently will forgo a try for a third term as governor to concentrate on presidential bid in 1976... former sports announcer, motion picture and television actor, union leader, gentleman rancher... reportedly a millionaire... considers major accomplishments as governor to be streamlined state government, welfare reforms, property tax relief... in the early 1960s became a fervid crusader for right-wing causes... noted for his informal manner, homespun wit, youthful appearance... divorced from

actress Jane Wyman, married to actress Nancy Davis... father of four.

Ambassador Donald Rumsfeld, 41, permanent U.S. representative on council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization... served as director of the Cost of Living Council during Phase 2 era... pressured the Price Commission into postponing auto price increases originally scheduled to go into effect just before 1972 election... worked for Chicago investment banking house A.G. Becker & Co. from 1960 until elected to Congress at age 30 from wealthy suburban Chicago district in 1962... re-elected three times... re-

signed in May, 1969, to become director of the Office of Economic Opportunity... left that job in December, 1970, to become counselor to the President in the White House, where his career was in limbo until the Cost of Living Council job came along... married, three children.

Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.), 64... the Republican standard-bearer during one of the worst election losses in the party's history, the 1964 presidential race... now back in the Senate, he has become an elder statesman, cultivated both by the White House and the party rank and file... Please Turn to Pg. 25, Col. 1



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REACTION—Gov. Reagan puts hand to eyes behind partially closed door in state Capitol on being told of the resignation of Vice President Agnew.

NIXON'S CHOICE

Continued from Second Page

name someone not only with talent but with ambition to be President," said Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.), who urged that the nomination go to New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller.

But Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) said the nominee "should be someone who is not interested in being a candidate in 1976."

When asked if the Democrats might "shoot down" a potential presidential nominee, Cranston replied: "The Republicans might shoot him down."

This coincided with private remarks by some congressional Republicans that Mr. Nixon would risk splitting his party if he nominated a potential 1976 candidate because of the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of naming someone acceptable to all GOP elements in Congress.

Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.), the 1964 Republican presidential nominee and one of those mentioned as a possible successor to Agnew, issued a statement hardly calculated to endear him to the White House.

"I was extremely sorry to hear of Vice President Agnew's resignation," Goldwater said. "Regardless of his plea of no contest on one charge of income tax evasion, I believe he was treated shamefully by persons in responsible government positions."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), a favorite for the 1976 Democratic nomination, called Agnew's resignation a "personal tragedy" for the Vice President and a "deep national tragedy for America."

Like Goldwater, he said Agnew had been subjected to "an unfair ordeal of leaks and innuendo" in recent weeks.

"I hope," Goldwater said, "that never again in my lifetime will I witness this kind of abuse of an American citizen by people in responsible positions."

Although it had been rumored for weeks that Agnew might quit, his resignation hit Capitol Hill like an earthquake be-

cause of his Sept. 29 declaration in Los Angeles that he would not resign even if indicted.

Mansfield was visibly shaken when he showed reporters a letter from Agnew that was delivered to him shortly after 2 p.m.

The letter, identical to one delivered at the same time to Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.), said:

"Today I have resigned as Vice President of the United States."

"Thank you for the many kindnesses you have extended to me. I will always treasure my days of

service with you and with the United States Senate." It was signed, "Sincerely, Spiro T. Agnew."

As Vice President, Agnew's sole constitutional duty was to preside over the Senate and be available to break a Senate deadlock in the event of a tie vote.

Agnew seldom exercised his presiding officer function, particularly in recent years. But the Senate, in an act of solicitude, agreed late Wednesday to retain members of Agnew's vice presidential staff on the Senate payroll for another month.

The Senate customarily takes such action when a member dies.

News of Mets Given Priority

From a Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Eastern Air Lines flight from Atlanta to Washington was routine until one of the stewardesses made an announcement.

"I have a news flash—the Mets are leading in the seventh inning, and also Vice President Agnew has resigned."

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SUCCESSORS

Continued from 24th Page

and file... although he has mellowed since the 1964 days, he still shoots from the hip on occasion... critical of the Watergate affair, he blamed the scandal on the "lack of ideology, the lack of experience, and the lack of deeply rooted philosophy of life" among White House staffers...

Born in Arizona before statehood... a college dropout, he ran the family department stores, became an Air Force ferry pilot, organized the Arizona Air National Guard... has sizeable outside income from department store stocks and his wife's holdings in Borg-Warner Corp., founded by her father and uncle.

William Pierce Rogers, 60, friend of Mr. Nixon for more than 20 years... was secretary of state until last month... enjoyed good relations with Congress as secretary... but deemed to have far less influence over foreign policy than then presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger... lawyer... attorney general during last half of Eisenhower Presidency... New York native... graduate of Colgate University and Cornell law school... served as lieutenant commander in Navy during World War II... married, one daughter, three sons...

William Warren Scranton, 56, former governor of Pennsylvania... heir to Scranton, Pa., family fortune amassed in ironworks, railroads and other enterprises... one of liberal Republicans who sought unsuccessfully to derail Sen. Barry Goldwater's drive for GOP presidential nomination in 1964... vowed in 1966 that he would not run "ever again for any public office under any circumstances"... serves on many corporate, educational and public service boards and commissions... known for skills as mediator and diplomat... Scranton has bachelor and law degrees from Yale... married, four children.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, 65, Republican governor of New York for 15 years... a leader of the GOP's liberal wing whose views have moderated over the years... unsuccessfully sought the Republican presidential nomination in 1960, 1964 and 1968... rejected Mr. Nixon's offer of the vice presidential nomination in 1960 when Mr. Nixon ran against John F. Kennedy... for the last few months has been preparing for two possible election bids: a fifth term in the statehouse in 1974, a first term in the White House in 1976.

As governor has engineered expensive, innovative programs in education, transportation, anti-pollution, drug abuse and other fields... one of America's wealthiest citizens and a member of a leading philanthropic family... an able campaigner, with a relaxed manner, ingratiating smile and gravelly voice, shouting, "Hiya, fella!" at potential voters... divorced in 1963, remarried to Mrs. Margaretta Fitch Murphy, known as "Happy", father of six.

Charles H. Percy, 51, congressman... originally from Illinois... in the GOP...

tial candidate for 1976... President Nixon said last spring Percy would never be President "so long as I have anything to say about it," but later apologized and called Percy a serious contender... before entering the Senate, Percy advanced from sales trainee to president of Bell & Howell Co. at the age of 29... a multimillionaire... coauthor of legislation to create an independent consumer protection agency... a nonsmoker and nondrinker... father of three.

Melvin R. Laird, 51, counselor to the President... brought back into the Nixon Administration to try to repair relations with Congress after Watergate scandal... replaced John D. Ehrlichman as chief domestic adviser in the White House... served nine terms in the House of Representatives from his native Wisconsin before becoming Mr. Nixon's first secretary of defense in 1969... irritated some fellow White House aides with prolific public statements on variety of issues... A hawk on defense posture, but tending to liberal on questions of federal spending on domestic programs... family has significant business interests in Wisconsin... married, three children.

Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.), 60, House minority leader... the House's favorite choice as Agnew successor, he would breeze through Congress if nominated by the President... Ford, who has 12 terms on Capitol Hill and wants to retire by 1976, has no White House ambitions, friends say... extremely loyal to President Nixon, he holds together the coalition that sustains presidential vetoes... with White House backing, he led the fight to impeach Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas three years ago... born in Nebraska, reared in Grand Rapids, Mich... a center on the University of Michigan football team, he worked his way through Yale law school by serving as assistant football coach... still sounds like a football coach, with references to "end runs" around the Democratic opposition... an aggressive, partisan fighter, he helped dismantle many "Great Society" programs and earned President Lyndon Johnson's enmity... lives on his \$42,500-a-year House salary.

George Bush, 49, national Republican Party chairman... a two-term GOP congressman from Texas in the mid-1960s... ran unsuccessfully for the Senate in 1964 and again, after President Nixon's urging, in 1970. Named U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in 1970 and picked by Mr. Nixon to replace Kansas Sen. Robert Dole as national party chairman last January... resists liberal-conservative labeling and is not anathema to either wing of the GOP... wealthy... cofounder of Zapata Petroleum Corp., an oil drilling firm, in 1953... Massachusetts-born, Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Yale... argued in an earlier suit on behalf of the U.S. against China at the United Nations in 1964...

GOP Women, Who Cheered Him, Shocked

Officials of the National Federation of Republican Women—the group that so enthusiastically cheered Vice President Agnew's statement here 12 days ago that he would not resign—expressed shock and consternation Wednesday at the news of his resignation.

"I'm just utterly shocked," said Mrs. Lou Witherow, fourth vice president of the federation, in an interview from her home in State College, Pa. "I really still have the greatest confidence in the Vice President. I think he's a fine man."

"When he spoke to us in Los Angeles, I believed in him and I can't help but think there's something else to be said about this whole thing."

Mrs. Ann Blackham of Winchester, Mass., third vice president of the group, said, "I'm in a state of shock, complete shock after the statements that he made to us... As far as we Republican volunteers are concerned, we are in a state of shock as to the whole episode."

"Because of the situation that has occurred overseas and at home, it is the better part of wisdom to make this announcement at this time," Mansfield said.

WAR, AGNEW KEEP SENATE FROM RECESS

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield announced Wednesday that because of the Middle East war and Spiro T. Agnew's resignation he had canceled the two-week Senate recess scheduled to begin Friday.

"Because of the situation that has occurred overseas and at home, it is the better part of wisdom to make this announcement at this time," Mansfield said.

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SPIRO T. AGNEW

Continued from First Page
his lawyers told him a full defense against the probable charges the government would lodge "could consume several years," during which time the public's attention would be distracted "from important national problems."

He admitted that in 1967 when he was governor of Maryland, he received payments from government contractors that were not expended for political purposes and therefore subject to income tax.

He insisted, however, that no work was awarded to contractors who were not competent, and that his acceptance of these funds "was part of a long-established pattern of political fund-raising in the state. At no time have I enriched myself at the expense of the public trust," he said.

According to evidence gathered by the government, Agnew received at least \$88,750 in kickbacks from 1967 to 1972.

Before Agnew spoke, Atty. Gen. Elliot L. Richardson read a four-page statement of his own, in which he briefly outlined the Department of Justice's case. The evidence showed, Richardson said, that payments to Agnew by engineers began while he was Baltimore County executive in the early 1960s and continued, on the part of one engineer, through December, 1972, during Agnew's Vice Presidency.

Despite the "serious wrongdoing" shown by the evidence, Richardson said the government had decided not to press its case further, to avoid inflicting "serious and permanent scars" on the nation.

"It is unthinkable," Richardson said, "that this nation should have been required to endure the anguish and uncertainty of a prolonged period in which the man next in line of succession to the Presidency was fighting the charges brought against him by his own government."

Richardson asserted that unless the government promised to recommend probation, rather than imprisonment, no agreement could have been reached with Agnew's lawyers. He added that to send Agnew to prison, in addition to his resignation and admission of a felony, "is more than I, as head of the government's prosecuting arm, can recommend or wish."

After Agnew and Richardson had spoken, U.S. Dist. Judge Walter E. Hoffman said that "but for a strong recommendation of the attorney general" he would have been inclined to impose a prison sentence. But under the circumstances, Hoffman said, he believed the "ends of justice will be better served by making an exception to the general rule."

At 2:05 p.m., moments after Agnew had entered Hoffman's courtroom, one of his attorneys delivered his formal resignation to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who is legally designated to receive such resignations, and his letter to Mr. Nixon.

The Vice President had met with the President Tuesday afternoon for about 40 minutes to tell him of his decision.

According to Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler, Mr. Nixon expressed appreciation for Agnew's "dedicated service to the nation" and "respect for the Vice President's decision to put the national interest above personal considerations."

On Wednesday, the President wrote Agnew a "Dear Ted" letter in which he said his departure "leaves me with a great sense of personal loss." The President praised Agnew for his "courage and candor," "strong patriotism," and "profound dedication to the welfare of the nation."

The only other Vice President to resign was John C. Calhoun, who quit near the end of his second term in 1832, because of a bitter political feud with President Andrew Jackson.

About the time Agnew's resignation was received, the President's health was reported to be good.

room of the Executive Office Building, next door to the White House. Though some had guessed what to expect, their first definite word that the Vice President was quitting came from Agnew's deputy chief of staff, Maj. Gen. John M. Dunn, who read them the same statement Agnew had delivered in court.

The reaction of the 30 or so persons in attendance was a combination of shock, bewilderment and dismay.

"Some of the girls wept," one of those present said. "Others asked if there was anything more they could do for the Vice President or Mrs. Agnew. There's never been a loyal staff."

Later they sat around in their offices and tried to puzzle out among themselves why the Vice President had acted as he did.

Two months before, soon after his involvement in the investigation of political corruption became public knowledge, Agnew had declared in a nationally televised press conference:

"I have no expectation of being indicted," and insisted he was not even considering resigning.

He denounced published reports that he had taken kickbacks as "damned lies," and declared that he had nothing to hide.

He seemed confident of his innocence and determined to prove it. He appealed to the House of Representatives to take over the investigation of the case. His lawyers filed briefs to halt the federal inquiry contending he could not be indicted before he was impeached, and accusing the Department of Justice of trying the case in the press.

On Sept. 29 in a speech in Los Angeles, Agnew climaxed a series of angry complaints against his prosecutors by accusing Department of Justice officials of trying to redeem reputations tarnished by Watergate at his expense. "If indicted I will not resign," he vowed.

His associates, who fervently believed in his innocence and considered him a target of the Department of Justice and the White House, applauded his militance and told newsmen to expect more such blasts.

But in his next speech—last Thursday—Agnew curbed the fierce rhetoric for which he was celebrated and appealed for support of the President, whom many of his supporters considered his prime antagonist.

Agnew staffers were puzzled and troubled by the change of pace. His press secretary, J. Marsh Thomson, who had predicted more hard-hitting speeches, suddenly took an unexplained leave of absence.

By the weekend, their concern grew, as Agnew, who had promised them not long before that he would never quit, withdrew into isolation.

For one militant staffer a clear signal of what was about to happen came on

Sunday when he was told that he would not be taken on Agnew's trip to New York City for a speech Tuesday.

"They didn't want any dissenters, along," he said.

What made Agnew decide to quit, instead of fight?

Some aides blamed what they described as relentless White House pressure. "I think the way the President handled this is a disgrace, and I hope not to live through anything like this again," said Peter J. Malatesta, Agnew's special assistant for political affairs.

"They (White House officials) tried to get the Vice President from the very beginning," one aide charged. He contended that on the day the investigation of Agnew was disclosed, White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig met with Agnew to attempt to persuade him to quit.

"That's not correct," a White House official said. "Obviously a number of options were discussed. But it was made clear to the Vice President that the decision was up to him."

Other staffers speculated that it was some unexpected development in the legal proceedings that shaped Agnew's decision—perhaps some new piece of evidence or some additional concession by the Department of Justice.

Some aides guessed that the Vice President may just have become weary of the struggle that had embroiled him for two months with no end in sight.

As he remarked himself last week in his Chicago speech: "A candle is only

so long and it eventually burns out."

Agnew's future, too, is shrouded in uncertainty. He was an attorney before he became a full-time politician. Conceivably he could return to private practice. The court action against him is not a cause for automatic disbarment in Maryland.

James Norris, clerk of the Maryland Court of Appeals, which regulates such matters in the state, said that the court "looks at the whole case to decide

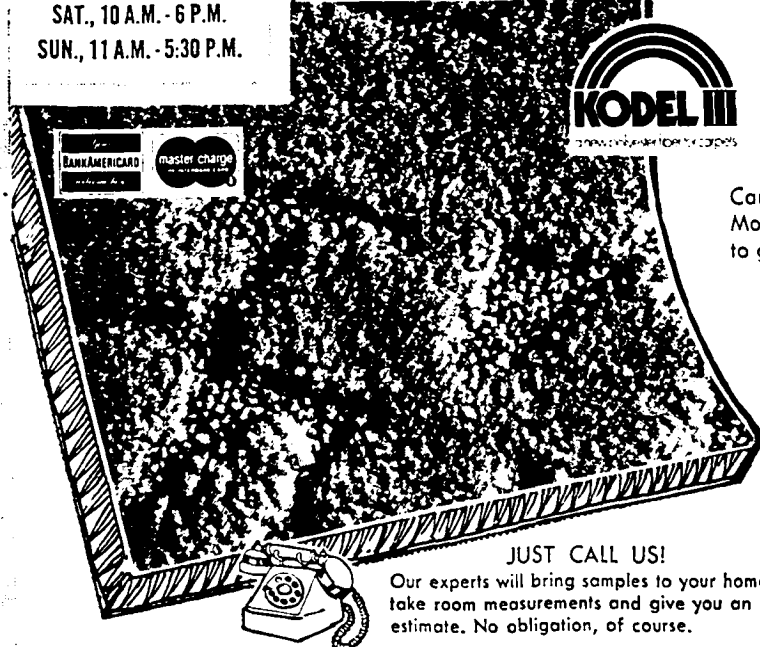
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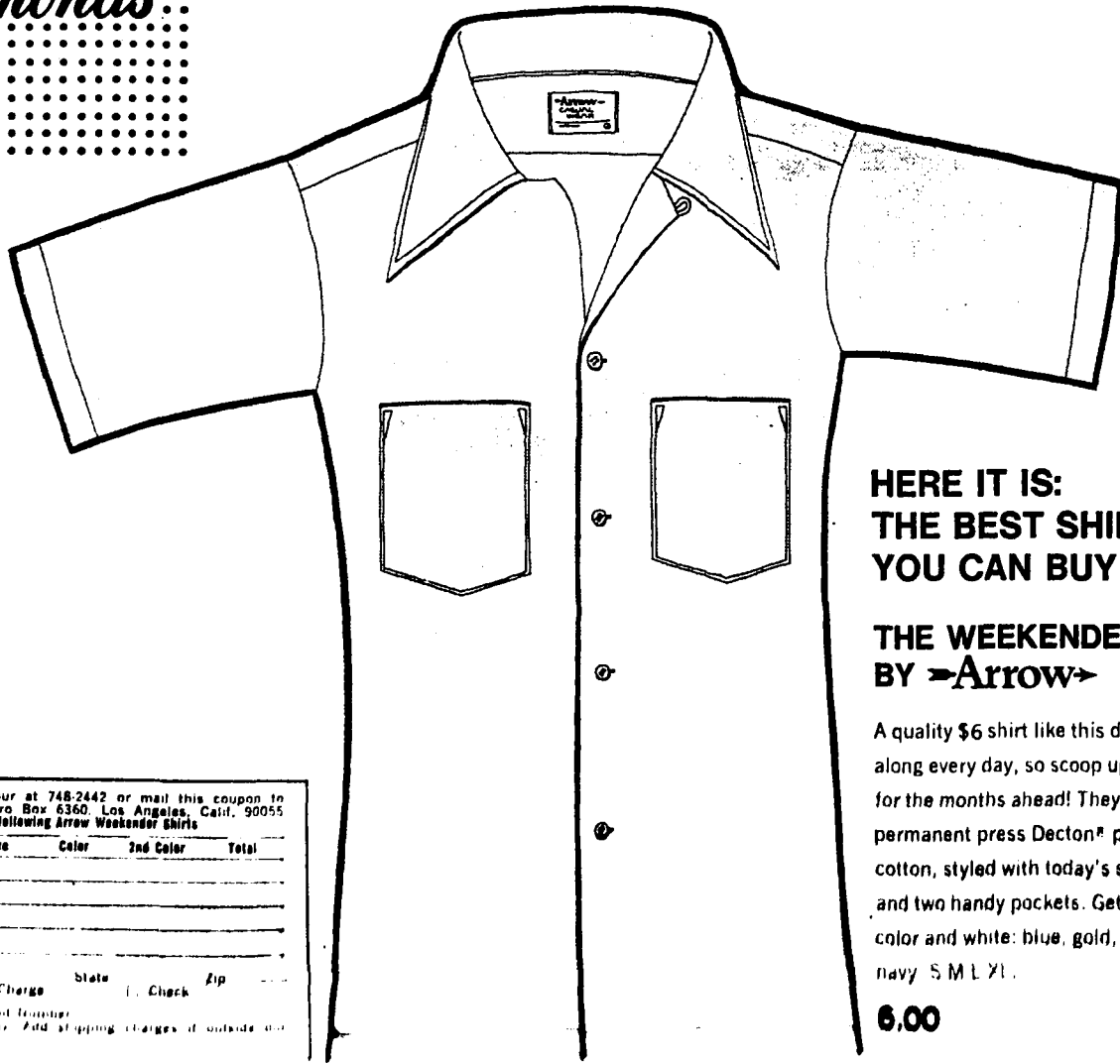
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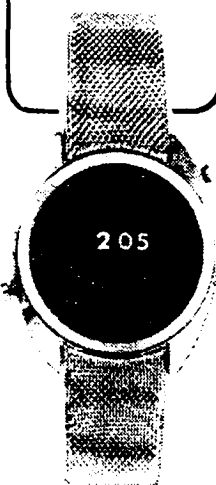
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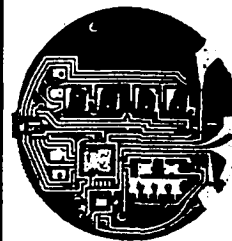
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RESIGNATION

Continued from 26th Page
whether a man is fit to practice."

Another possibility is an executive position in the corporate world. During his years as Vice President, Agnew made many influential friends in the business world. And he disclosed before his nomination for a second term last year that he had received an attractive offer from some unnamed enterprise.

Agnew himself may soon have something to say on the subject. Associates expect another public statement from him, perhaps at a press conference this week.

Public attention, though, is inevitably switching to the question of his replacement. The problem is unique since this is the first vice presidential vacancy to occur since the 25th Amendment was ratified in 1967.

Many politicians here believe that the President's choice may control the presidential nomination of the Republican Party in 1976. They point out that the Vice Presidency served as a stepping stone for both Mr. Nixon and Hubert H. Humphrey to the presidential nomination in recent years, and that Agnew himself was considered a leading GOP

contender for 1976 until the scandal broke.

It is widely believed that former Texas Gov. John B. Connally would be the President's first choice as Agnew's successor, if Mr. Nixon had freedom of action. Connally, a recent convert to Republicanism, would probably greatly enhance his position in the party by serving as Vice President in the Republican administration.

However, his nomination by Mr. Nixon might provoke opposition by supporters of other potential Republican candidates — notably Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York and Gov. Reagan of California.

Some Democrats have threatened to oppose any nominee who might be ex-

pected to use the post as a launching pad for the Presidency. Should Mr. Nixon take this threat seriously, he might pick some elder statesman, such as Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona or former Secretary of State William P. Rogers, who would not be a likely candidate in 1976.

However, many Democrats concede that it would be difficult for them to publicly oppose the President's choice merely on grounds that his nominee might be presidential material in the future.

At any rate, if his past record on Supreme Court nominations is any guide, Mr. Nixon is not likely to let potential Democratic

opposition deter him from selecting the man he wants.

He has initiated procedures designed to solicit a wide range of opinion within his own party, from the national committee and the Senate as to who the next Vice President should be.

Undoubtedly he will give due consideration to the recommendations he receives. But some observers believe that the President's ultimate choice will be the man he considers most likely to help repair his damaged Administration and perhaps carry on as his political heir for four more years.

★ Los Angeles Times Thurs., Oct. 11, 1973—Part I 27

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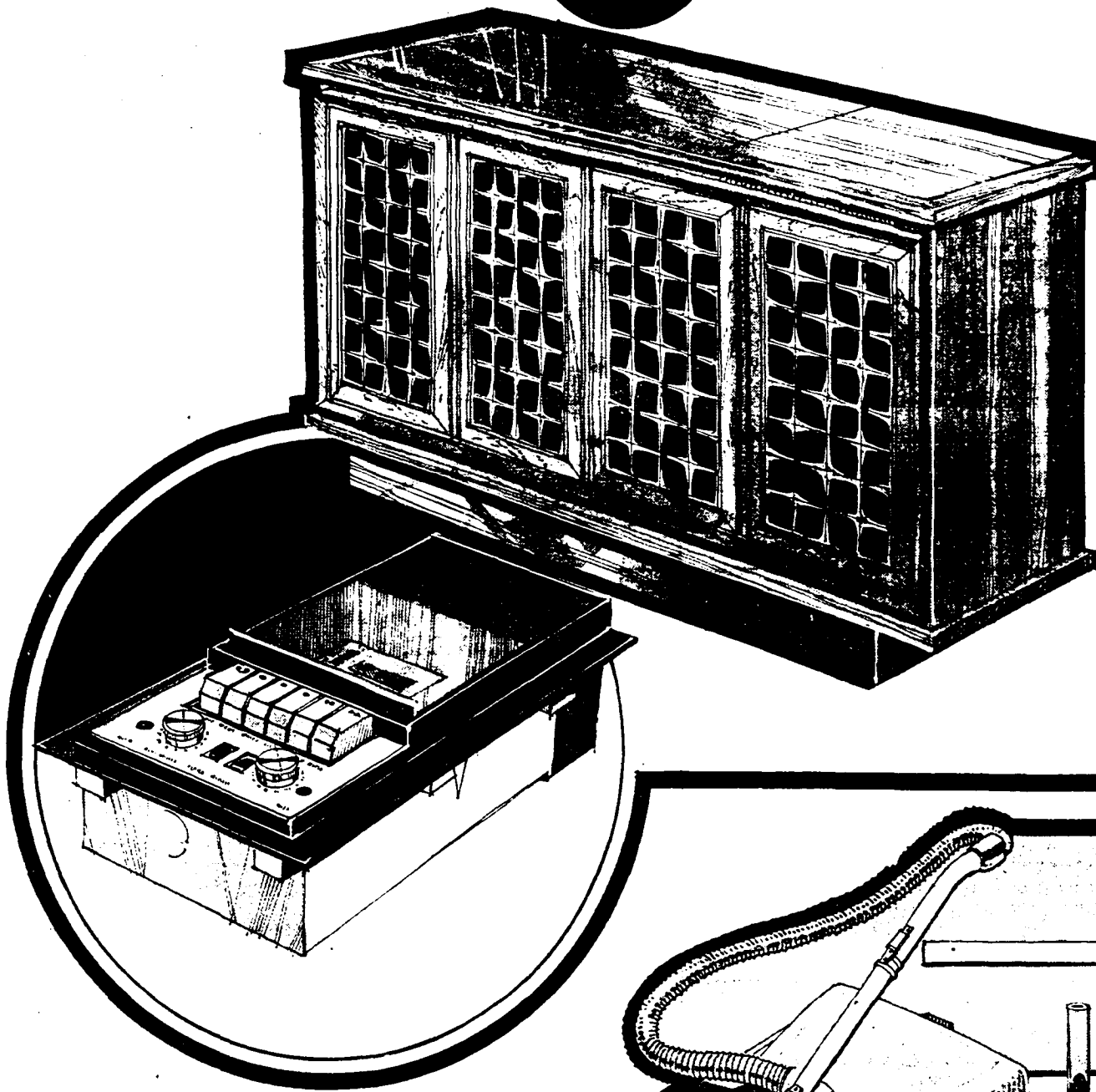
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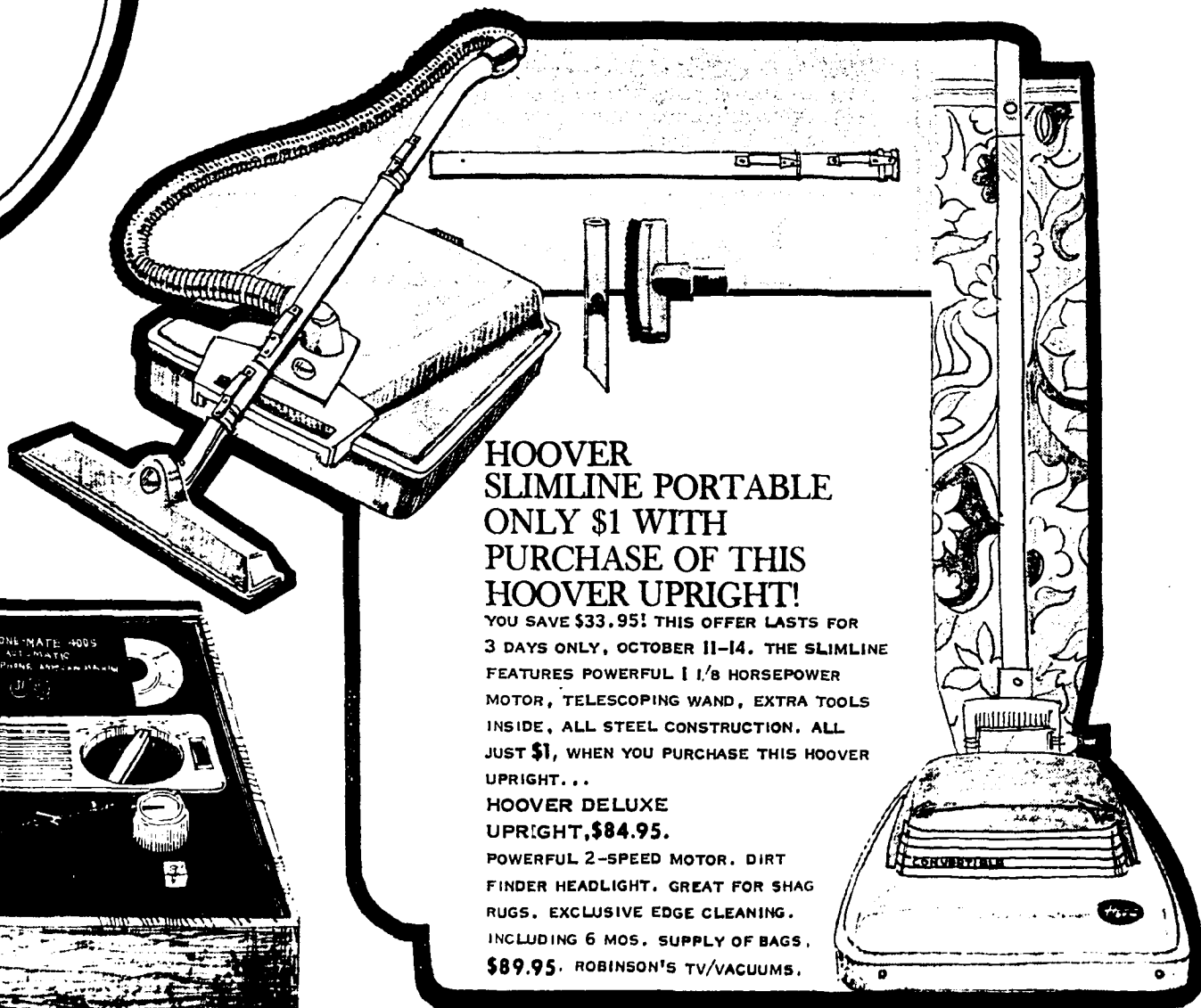
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SUCCESSOR

Continued from First Page

Scott said Mr. Nixon asked them to help him make the decision, commenting: "The President has an open mind. He has simple criteria—a man or a woman, a person able to be President, a person who has the kinds of qualities to be President."

Both Scott and Mansfield described the President's mood as somber. "He was very concerned and distressed about Agnew in a truly humanitarian way," Mansfield said.

However, both said he was in firm control of the political situation. "He seemed to be on top of everything," Mansfield said.

Political observers generally agreed that Mr. Nixon has essentially three choices: to pick a strong contender for the 1976 GOP nomination, to recoup prestige for his embattled Administration by naming an elder statesman, or to go for a lesser known young Republican as a compromise.

Whichever course the President chooses, Agnew's departure seemed certain to intensify jockeying for presidential position among ambitious Republicans who have remained discreetly still because of Agnew's legal problems and the President's Watergate travail.

The President, in his meeting with Republican leaders, indicated the route he expects to take, according to one informed source. He said the President put first priority on naming a new Vice President who is of "presidential caliber." Secondly, according to the source, Mr. Nixon said he wants a person who shares his views on foreign policy, and lastly someone who "can be confirmed."

That seemed to indicate Mr. Nixon is inclined to undertake another struggle with Congress rather than use the nomination as a conciliatory gesture.

Speculation over possible successors has been rife in Washington ever since the disclosure in August that Agnew was under investigation on criminal charges in Maryland. The list has grown despite legal maneuvering to keep Agnew in office and his personal declaration that he would not resign, even if indicted.

Guessing on a new Vice President centered immediately on former Texas Gov. John B. Connally, the Democrat turned Republican who served for a time as the Nixon Administration's Treasury secretary, and who recently has acted like a serious candidate for the GOP presidential nomination three years hence.

Asked at his Houston law office Wednesday whether he would accept the nomination, Connally said: "I won't respond... because it is a highly speculative question. I don't like to cross bridges until I come to them."

"I'm not a candidate for anything... that includes the Vice Presidency."

Others who have been considered presidential possibilities and who are now mentioned as potential Agnew successors include:

—New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, who has sought the GOP nomination without success since 1960.

While calling Agnew's resignation "a tragedy for the country and for a person," Rockefeller, responding at a New York news conference to speculation that he might get the nomination, said: "I don't like to respond to an important decision that hasn't been offered... If the President calls me, I always talk to him."

Apparently abandoning a position that he would not take the Vice Presidency because it is "stand by equipment," Rockefeller said "some very serious problems facing the country" had led him to reassess that view.

He said he thought Agnew acted with "great courage and forthrightness."

California Gov. Reagan, a favorite of the party conservatives, had called behind Agnew's back, shaken at the news of the resignation.

Los Angeles Times, Oct. 11, 1973

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AGNEW SUCCESSOR

Continued from 28th Page
told reporters in Sacramento:

"I am shocked and saddened. Ted Agnew was, and is, a friend of mine. I know none of the details about this case or what has taken place and therefore I have no further comment to make."

He declined comment on whether he would accept the nomination.

Sen. Howard H. Baker (R-Tenn.), who rose from relative obscurity to national prominence as vice chairman of the Senate Watergate committee.

—Atty. Gen. Elliot L. Richardson, who served as secretary of health, education and welfare and as secretary of defense, before being called on to take over the Justice Department.

—Melvin R. Laird, former defense secretary and longtime Republican congressman, brought into the White House as the President's chief domestic adviser after the resignation of John D. Ehrlichman.

—Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.), member of the liberal wing of the party, long known to harbor presidential aspirations.

Republican elders, considered by Democrats to be no threat to them as a GOP presidential candidate in 1976 either because of age, lack of White House ambitions or other reasons, include:

—William P. Rogers, the recently resigned secretary of state.

—Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.), House minority leader, who has hinted he does not plan to remain in Congress much longer.

—John Sherman Cooper, retired Republican senator from Kentucky, now in private law practice in Washington.

—Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), who lost the presidential election to Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964.

—William W. Scranton, former Republican governor of Pennsylvania, who staged a late effort to defeat Goldwater for the 1964 GOP nomination.

Among younger, lesser-known Republicans who have received prominent mention are:

—Donald Rumsfeld, a former congressman, former director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, former counsel to the President, and now ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

—Bush, former Texas congressman, defeated Senate candidate, former ambassador to the United Nations, and now chairman of the GOP National Committee.

—William D. Ruckelshaus, former director of the Environmental Protection Agency, former acting director of the FBI, and now deputy attorney general.

—Richard Lugar, the mayor of Indianapolis, sometimes referred to as the President's "favorite mayor," and once mentioned by Mr. Nixon as potential presidential timber.

When a nomination finally is sent to Congress, the nation's lawmakers will find themselves dealing with a problem they have never confronted before.

The 25th Amendment to the Constitution, adopted

in 1967, declares that the office of the Vice Presidency will be filled by the President nominating the candidate and both houses of the Congress approving the nominee by a majority vote.

When the amendment was adopted most of the congressional debate centered on presidential disability and the accession of the Vice President.

As a result, the specific procedures by which Congress will approve a nominee to fill the vice presidential vacancy were never spelled out. The law says only that the nominee should be approved by a majority vote of both houses.

Senate leaders conferred on the question for nearly two hours Wednesday afternoon, and planned another session today.

Mansfield said after the meeting Wednesday that the Senate probably would turn the nomination over to its Rules Committee, headed by Sen. Howard Cannon (D-Nev.), when it arrives from the White House.

Sens. James Abourezk (D-S.D.) and Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) introduced a resolution to create a seven-member select committee to consider the nomination.

Some Democrats, even while Agnew's departure from office was mere speculation, served notice in private conversations that they would fight any attempt by President Nixon to name a Vice President who would be likely GOP nominee for President in 1976.

Mansfield said the senators in Wednesday's leadership meeting discussed the problem with "sobriety, dignity and awareness of the historical moment."

Although he declined to get into the political battle that could arise in filling the vacancy, Mansfield said he considered it "the duty of Congress to go into the qualifications of the man who will be only a breath away from the Presidency."

A number of senators predicted that Congress would speedily approve the nomination of Rogers, Cooper or Goldwater. A great many House members — both Republicans and Democrats — would welcome nomination of Ford, and said they could see it passing the House with no difficulty.

The man whose nomination would likely face the toughest going in Congress is the one many po-

litical observers believe to be President Nixon's top choice for the White House in 1977—Connally.

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), who turned down an offer from President-elect Nixon in 1968 to be secretary of defense, said a Connally nomination would set off a bitter struggle in Congress.

Nevertheless, a veteran GOP strategist who asked not to be identified told The Times he believed Connally might well be the nominee.

He said the concern over the war in the Middle East could keep attention from focusing on the vice pres-

idential problem and give President Nixon time to negotiate with key Democrats over the nomination.

He noted that a good many Democrats might be persuaded to accept Connally because they owe him favors from his days as an influential figure in their party.

But Jackson, saying Mr. Nixon's first concern should be to select a nominee who would be a unifying force in the country, predicted that Connally, being a come-lately Republican, would be opposed by many members of the GOP in Congress as well as most Democrats.

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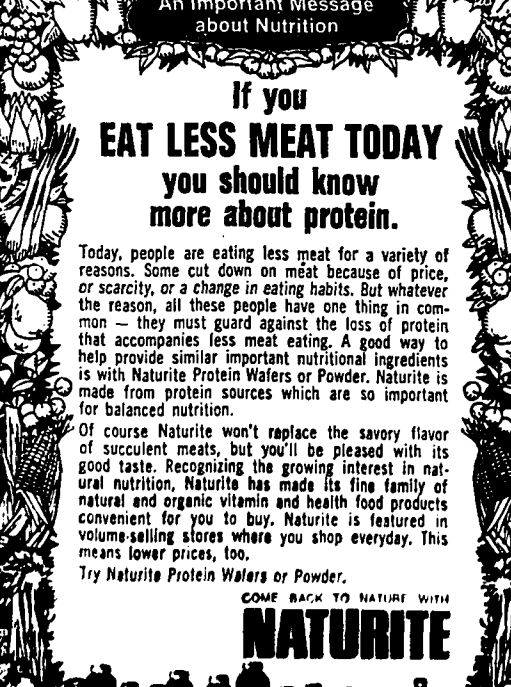
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